seven SAARC countries have ratified the Agreement by the first week of November, 1995. The tariff concessions agreed in the first round under the Agreement will become operative from 7.12.1995.

(b) and (c) Full implementation of SAPTA will require extension of tariff concessions, to all product lines. In the first round of negotiations, concessions have been extended to only a few tariff lines. With further expansion of tariff concessions under SAPTA in future rounds of negotiations intra SAARC trading opportunities are likely to be enlarged. The extent and depth of concessions will also be determined during the negotiations. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to quantify the likely increase in trade as a result of full implementation and also how much of the increase will represent additionality in trade. Consequently, loss of anticipated revenue as a result of full implementation of SAPTA cannot be determined at this stage.

दालों का आयात

13. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:

क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने दालों के मूल्यों को नियंत्रित करने के लिए, जो देश में दलहनों की कमी के कारण बढ़ गयी थीं, इनके आयात को प्रोत्साहित किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके आयात को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या सुविधाएं देने की घोषणा की गयी है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि दलहनों के आयात के लिए सुविधाओं की घोषणा करने के बावजूद स्वदेशी बाजार में इनके मूल्यों में कोई गिरावट नहीं आयी है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

खाद्य मंत्री (श्री अजित सिंह): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) हाल ही में दालों पर आयात शुल्क को 10 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 5 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) पिछले वर्षों में 4-6 लाख मीटरी टन दालों का आयात किया गया था जबकि मांग और आपूर्ति के बीच लगभग 2-3 मिलियन मीटरी टन का अन्तर है। यह खुले बाजार में मूल्यों को कम करने के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं है। देश में दालों के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए सभी संभव उपाय किए जा रहे हैं।

Distribution of Coconut Oil

14. **SHRI JOY NADUKKARA:** Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state whether Government propose to distribute coconut oil throughout the country through the outlets of Civil Supplies Department in view of the continuous fall in price of coconuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): The Ministers-in-charge of Food and Civil Supplies of all States/UTs have been requested to explore the possibility of procuring and supplying adequate quantities of coconut oil to consumers through fair price shops/cooperative outlets under the Public Distribution System so as to popularise the use of coconut oil as a cooking medium.

Production and Export of Sugar

15. **SHRI MOHAN BABU:**
SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the comfortable position of sugar production in the country during the current year, Government has decided to allow sugar exports during the current financial year;

(b) if so, whether the production of sugar during 1994-95 touched an all time high of 143 lac tons;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any decision about the total sugar to be exported during the current year; and

(d) what are the countries to whom the sugar will be exported and at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) In view of comfortable position of sugar Government has notified 5 lakh tonnes of sugar for export, during 1994-95 season (October-September). Besides Government has also notified a quantity of 0.19 lakh tonnes of sugar for export to EEC and USA under preferential quotas. The production of sugar during 1994-95 seasons was of the order of 145.85 lakh tonnes against 98.24 lakh tonnes achieved during 1993-94 season. The decision to allow export sugar during the current season would depend upon the production trends requirement for internal consumption, prices, of sugar in the open market and its surplus availability.

As per information given by the Export Agency viz; Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd., the sugar is to be exported to Russia, Srilanka, Indonesia, Maldives etc. and the following are the average prices for the quantities contracted so far.

Quantity (MT)	*Average Price*
2,49,000	US $ 357.88 PMT, FOBS
1,62,500	Rs. 12, 126.24 PMT, FOBS
4,11,500	

Practice of Bribe for Employment

16. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated the 27th September, 1995 that bribe could do wonders to get employment for a daily wager in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and steps taken by Government to put an end to this menace?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Candidates for daily wage employment are registered in the Zonal Employment Exchange, at Kamla Market, New Delhi, No such complaint has been received in respect of that Employment Exchange.

कोयला खानों में दुर्घटनाएं

17. **श्री रामदेव भंडारी:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) विगत तीन महीनों में देश की किन-किन कोयला खानों में दुर्घटनाएं हुई हैं तथा उनमें कितने श्रमिक मारे गए;

(ख) उन दुर्घटनाओं में से कितनी दुर्घटनाएं सुरक्षा संबंधी उपायों में असावधानी बरते जाने के कारण हुई और इस संबंध में जांच रिपोर्ट का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई की है?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाईटलर): (क) पिछले तीन महीनों के दौरान भारत की कोयला खानों में मृतक कामगारों की संख्या सहित दुर्घटनाओं का खान-वार ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है:—